

Fire Department
Phillip A. Mares
Fire Chief
Monthly Report
April 5, 2010

1. Fire Department Training

ONGOING- In order to insure safe operations within the Fire Department, staff will be scheduled for ongoing trainings as available; Training provides a positive impact on moral and overall health of the department.

- Two temp recruit firefighters are scheduled to attend the New Mexico State Firefighters Training Academy NMSFFA the week of April 11th and will be attending the Hazardous Materials Awareness/Operations course. The new recruits have completed their ICS training, CPR certification and in house orientation prior to attending NMSFFA. After completing the Haz-mat course recruits will be scheduled for the Firefighter I course when available.
- Two Firefighters Chris Vigil and Anthony Chavez are assigned to attend the Region III Emergency Medical Services conference to be held in Ruidoso, NM April 24th, 25th & 26th they will be participating in the vehicle extrication course.
- Engineer David Garcia and Firefighter Roberto Ortiz will also be assigned to a vehicle extrication course. This course will be held at the NMSFFA in Socorro, NM to be held in May 18th, 19th and 20th.

COMPLETED- Firefighter Anthony Chavez has certified as an Emergency Medical Technician EMT-B. On Saturday, April 17, 2010, Firefighter Roberto Ortiz will be re-testing for his EMT Certification in Las Cruces, NM. Roddy Gallegos has completed certification for Firefighter I.

Four (4) officers re-tested for their Fire Service Instructor in Socorro, NM, with three (3) successfully passing.

Two staff members attended the Fire Service Instructor course at the NMSFFA in Socorro, and two (2) staff members have retested for previous courses taken and all four have successfully passed.

There were 10 Fire Personnel employees that attended a Wildland refresher course held at NMHU on April 19, 2010.

2. Fire Inspections

ONGOING-Fire Department staff has been assisting the New Mexico State Fire Marshal's Office (NMSFMO) with area school building inspections which are done on an annual basis.

ONGOING- Day to day operations include local business inspections.

3. Meetings

Participation with Office of Emergency Management Local Emergency Planning Committee 2 yr. exercise training, Exercise to take place April 12th.

Participated in the review of master plan contractor submitters in the RFP process.

Participated in Mayor and Council retreat.

4. Station One Construction

We have currently advertised the Bid for the Fire Station Office Addition and bids were opened on January 27, 2010 at 3:00 P.M. This new addition will be a reception area which will free up additional office space that will be utilized by officers and staff.

We are currently waiting on a Pre Construction meeting which is scheduled for Monday March 22, 2010. Weather too has been an issue as far as the addition not being started.

UPDATE- Construction is underway.

5. Equipment replacement

- Replacement Amkus hydraulic unit for rescue tool system is on order. Amkus unit is utilized for vehicle extrication; aging unit is over 10 years old and at times is difficult to start. Old unit will be Rehabbed and placed as a reserve pump.
- All class A apparatus will be scheduled for annual pump testing and inspections. Repairs will be authorized as needed.
- Developing specifications for a Class A Apparatus to replace aging unit. Specifications have been sent to SFMO for approval.
- Department working on budget request for 2011 funding cycle. Assistant Fire Chief received carryover authorization for unexpended monies from previous funding. This carryover will be utilized for the purchase of the Amkus pump described previously.

6. Fire Prevention

Staff has been working on the departments dodge van, the vehicle has been re-painted red to match department vehicles with a new graphics kit and will be utilized as a fire prevention unit. The vans will assist by transporting fire prevention and training supplies to area schools and special events.